IN THE CLAIMS

CLEAN UNMARKED COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows:

Please cancel Claims 2, 12, 17, and 19.

1. (Amended) A method for transaction processing of a search transaction comprising the steps of:

a) receiving a plurality of search queries from users, each of said plurality of search queries including search criteria and including a user address;

b) normalizing said search criteria so as to obtain normalized search criteria;

c) transmitting said normalized search criteria to a search engine;

d) receiving a response from said search engine that includes search results;

e) generating a response to each of said search queries from users, each response including search results corresponding to the search criteria submitted by that particular user; and

f) transmitting said responses to each of said users.

11. (Amended) In a computer system including a processor coupled to a bus, and a memory unit coupled to the bus for storing information, a computer-implemented method for communicating with a user comprising the steps of:

a) receiving a plurality of search queries from users, each of said plurality of search queries including search criteria and including a user address;

b) normalizing said search criteria so as to obtain normalized search criteria; [and]

c) transmitting said normalized search criteria to a search engine;

d) receiving a response from said search engine that includes search results;

e) generating a response to each of said search queries from users, each response including search results corresponding to the search criteria submitted by that particular user; and

f) transmitting said responses to each of said users.

16. (Amended) A system for transaction processing of a search transaction comprising:

a) a first computing system including a search engine program operable to search a database;

b) a second computing system including at least one computing device that is coupled to the Internet, said second computing system coupled to said first computing system; and

c) a software program operable on said first computing device for receiving a plurality of search queries from users, each of said plurality of search queries including search criteria and including a user address, said software program operable to normalize said search criteria so as to obtain normalized search criteria and operable to transmit said normalized search criteria to said first computing system, wherein the software program is operable to receive a response from said first computing device that includes search results, and is operable to generate a response to each of said search queries from users, each response

including search results corresponding to the search criteria submitted by that particular user, and is operable to transmit said responses to each of said users.

18. (Amended) In a computer system having a processor coupled to a bus, a computer readable medium coupled to said bus and having stored therein a computer program that when executed by said processor causes said computer system to implement a method for transaction processing of a search transaction, said method comprising the steps of:

a) receiving a plurality of search queries from users, each of said plurality of search queries including search criteria and including a user address;

b) normalizing said search criteria so as to obtain normalized search criteria;

c) transmitting said normalized search criteria to a search engine;

d) receiving a response from said search engine that includes search results;

e) generating a response to each of said search queries from users, each response including search results corresponding to the search criteria submitted by that particular user; and

f) transmitting said responses to each of said users.